American Presbyterian.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1869.

REV. JOHN W. MEARS, D. D., Editor. No. 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia,

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE. Rev. Z. M. Humphrey, D.D., Pastor of Calvary

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Rev. E. E. Adams, D. D., Prof. in Lincoln Uni-Rev. Samuel W. Duffield, Special Cor-

respondent.

Mr. Robert E. Thompson will continue to act as Editor of the News Departments

Correspondents in every Presbytery and Synod will promptly furnish us with fresh items onews from their respective fields.

Visit to Bethlehem by Rev. V. D. Collins, That Little Shaker, Limit of Three Score and Ten (from Mr. Barnes' Sermon,) Rev. A. M. Stewart's Letters, XXVIII, Colorado for Christ, Our Temperance Governor, Page 2nd; The Well at Sychar, Page 3rd; What Jesus is to the Believer, (Poetry.) How the Dolls got to Nuremberg, Emerson on the Baby, Victor Hugo on Slavery in Spain, Page 6th; Religious Intelligence, Reformed Churches, Episcopalian, Congregationalist, Page 7th.

SUMMARY.

Two calls (one accepted), one ordination and installation (David Hopkins at New Rochelle), two deaths. Messrs. Dunning and Peck, one resignation, A. M. Parmelee at Livonia, N. Y., two churches organized, one each in Missouri and Michigan, a revival with 23 additions at Parkersburg, Ind., are the main facts in the News of our Churches this week.

The First church in this city gave \$1,800 to Home Missions last Sunday, and it is hoped will make the amount \$2,000. They have made a very handsome present in money to Mr. Barnes, who preached the first sermon from the pulpit, of the New Year. Mr. Barnes' sermon "Three Score and Ten;", is out in

pamphlet form. One U. P. minister has gone over to the other branch, and one has accepted a call from one of our churches (Hanover St., Wilmington). A venerated minister of the other branch, Joseph H. Jones, D. D., has been called to his rest, also, Hiram Mattison, D. D., a literary character of the M. E. Church. Rev. Halsey Dunning died in Baltimore on Monday. Rev. John Peck died at Paterson, N. J., Nov. 24, 1868.

Revivals in the other branch are noted; in Sag Harbor twenty-eight professions; Scotchtown, N. Y., one hundred and thirty.

An Old School minister, of Dubuque, Iowa, has start ed a Seminary for training German ministers. It is spoken well of by a committee of inspection appointed by the last Assembly, and has thirty students.

The Home Missionary Board of the other branch is recovering somewhat from its great financial straits.

church-building at 18th and Master Sts. Episcopalian statistics are really quite startling as reported in the late Church Almanac. Their membership has risen to 194,692 with aggregate contributions of almost four and a half millions for twentythree dollars for each member. Twenty-two thousand persons were confirmed, and thirty-five thousand, seven hundr d and two were baptized, of which fourfifths were infants; making seven times as many infant baptisms as in our Church.

The third of Dr. Tyng's sons in the Episcopal ministry has just been ordained. There are 245 students in the Congregational Semi-

The Baptist Church Extension Committee for this city is no mere paper organization, but is working for a \$10,000 chapel down Broad Street.

A Japanese student at Rutger's College, New Brunswick, lately made a profession of religion in the M. M. Church of that place.

Last year, the German immigration exceeded that from Ireland. The Lutheran Church is making large strides in numerical strength in consequence.

All subscribers in the city who have prepaid us for the delivery of their paper, and who now again are called upon for postage, will be credited one, two or three numbers of the paper, in proportion to the unexpended balance of the amount in our hands. DO NOT PAY MORE THAN TWENTY CENTS A YEAR FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE PAPER BY THE POSTMAN ANYWHERE IN in as a distinct element, with an organization THE CITY.

A large number of subscribers have paid since the first of the year. The accounts of those in arrears for more than two years will be put into the hands of a collector on the first of February. All who settle before that time will be allowed to avail themselves of offers heretofore hierarchal rule, they mean to preserve, and move limited to the end of the year.

Examine the figures on the printed label pasted on your paper or on the wrapper. All monies received by Monday noon at this office will be credited by changing the figures on the next issue of the paper. If the figures do not agree with your understanding of the matter, write at once. Receipts will be sent when a stamp accompanies the request.

Many old subscribers are getting their own papers FREE by sending us each two new names and five dollars. Subscribers in arrears will find this an easy way of paying off their old

The Irish Presbyterian Church has opened a Jewish Mission in Vienna, and sends Rev. Dunlop Moore, a missionary returned from India, to take charge of it.

court preacher of Berlin, died Dec. 10th. His

A meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of the Interior, recently organized to cooperate with the A. B. C. F. M. in the valley of the Mississippi, was held in the First church of Chicago (Rev. R. W. Patterson's), on Friday evening last.

THE GRACE OF GOD IN THE LOW PLACES OF CINOINNATI.-Plum St. in Cincinnati is a street of fine churches, synagogues and cathedrals, but ends in a den of low houses which cluster around still viler rum-shops, the haunt of white and colored wharf-rats of every class. Mr. Webb, a colored member of the Union Baptist church was called to the death-bed of a little girl, whom Christ had found for one of his own, even in this locality. He was so impressed with the spiritual destitution of the place that he resolved to devote himself to the work of preaching Christ there. An old negress lent him her room, and amid curses, threats, and obscene songs, drunken carouses, and every possible species of riotous opposition, he held on, till the room grew too small for those who came, and the meeting was transferred to a bar room. For six months they prayed and fasted with a dancehouse and a gambling-saloon next door. Their prayers were heard, and the partitions which separated the three rooms, once devoted to three gross species of iniquity were torn down, and all became a house of prayer. Some thirty-five or forty of the "abandoned" residents of the neighborhood have come out of their gambling, harlotry, rum-selling or drunkenness and have found Christ. They have organized a Relief Union to do for each other what the perfunctory charities of the city once did for them, feed the hungry, nurse the sick, and bury the dead. No sort of sensutionalism has been indulged in by Mr. Webb and his humble assistants in the good

DEATH OF REV. HALSEY DUNNING.

Just previous to going to press, we received the following note, from one of the elders of the First Constitutional Presbyterian Church of Baltimore: . เดอร์เมอร์ลิ โรโ แก้ เสยอดเราหรื

DEAR SIR:-Rev. Halsey Dunning for 14 years pastor of our New School Church in this city, died at an early hour this morning.

Yours truly, John P. Ammidon. Baltimore, January 11th, 1869.

This is the announcement of a long expected event, but which will carry a tender sorrow to a wide circle of friends in public and private walks

THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION.

An article in the last number of this paper recited the action of the General Assembly of 1000 ina ita abarabaa ta aganya ta tha abaya named society its appropriate share in their contributions, and sanctioning the reckoning in of such contributions along with those to the A. B. C. F. M. in the Foreign Missionary columns of the statistical reports. It was said in support of this recommendation, that this agency enables us to complete the circuit of our system of effort for all the various classes of men awaiting evangelizing influences, and also that its work is a peculiarly vital one, because of the hand-to-hand conflict between the Romanizing and evangelizing forces. Paganism is fearful as corrupting or destroying the pagans themselves. Romanism. over and above all this, comes upon pure Christianity in the very homes where it dwells, with purpose to destroy it. We now add as good

reasons for the action of the Assembly;

3. The now confessedly fearful periliof our country from Romish immigration, is best met at the source of such immigration. The Romish immigrant is unlike the Protestant in all the respects that bode good or ill to our institutions, social, political, or religious. The latter comes among us with purpose of conformity -comes for fusion, and to be of us as well as with us-comes not to un-Americanize our country, but to Americanize himself. With the former all is the reverse of this. The Romanists in this country are as distinct a people as when the ocean lay between us and them as far from us on every subject where American ideas have play. I they participate in our political affairs, they come and leadership of their own, acting with some party only as an ally, bringing to its aid their balance of power, but keeping that balance of power always in condition for transfer, and always setting for its price immunities and favors for its Church institutions, such as have never been given to Protestant Churches or charities. as a phalanx toward the end, not so utterly visionary as we have supposed, when they, to use

their own boastful words, shall have the country. Landed upon our shores, they are caught up, placed, put to work, impressed with the esprit du corps, and incessantly watched. The present religious condition of the countries from which they come, is found by experience to be much more hopeful of effort. Ireland itself is not altogether an exception to this remark. But it is more strikingly true of the continent, where, almost everywhere, that phalanx feature, so well compacted here, is deeply disturbed, and, in many places, hopelessly broken. In Italy, Austria, Spain, and other Romish States of Continental Europe, the zeal of religious superstition is not backed by so definite and malign a political purpose. It does not take the form of a crusade to enslave a great nation to the ideas of the middle ages, and lay it as a magnificent offering

at the feet of the Bishop of Rome.

It is not to be supposed that Ireland will long Dr. Fred. Wm. Kummacher the great maintain its present proportional percentage of immigration. The down-trodden nations of Europe have poured it upon us, not so much in

aspirations for a better and manlier condition of life. The rebound of unfettered thought from the slavery of superstition, becomes an ambition to find somewhere in the world a scope as well as ardor for a better life. Hence we may now expect a fresh impetus to emigration from all the Romish parts of Europe; and, for reasons before stated, our highest hope from them lies in such labor as will bring them to us already weaned from the soul-enslaving Papacy, and prepared, through a living evangelical Christianity, to add strength to a government which dies when such a Christianity dies out from it. Go to the fountain head of emigration, and there we may best hope to purify its flowings. In Austria itself the Romanist is to-day more accessible to the Gospel than in this country, after he has been socially fixed and got into the track. The it; and Presbytery could but advise the pastor vigil of Jesuitism is here more sleepless, its schemes for isolating its people from all reformatory influences more complete, and its control more invincible; han in any other part of the

Another reason which lends importance to the recommendation of the Assembly, will be offered next week.

FROM OUR ROUTESTER CORRESPONDENT. LOSSESSES AN AVEUL CALANITY

One of those frightful calamities which send a thrill of horror though a community, occurred in our city on We nesday night of this week. A part of the floor of a new school building, connected with a German Catholic church in the north-western part of the city, gave way, in the midst of a festiva, precipitating some hundreds of people into a confused mass of struggling, shricking humanty, killing eight persons, and sadly wounding and maining some forty of fifty more.

The building ad been erected but a few months, a large stacture, three stories high, beside the basement Lach floor was divided into three portions, the whole building calculated to accommodate several hundred children. These with their parents had gathered for a festival, and had passed a rod part of the evening in the exercises arrange for the occasion. At nine o'clock was the hor for refreshments, whereupon all were crowded no the front part of the building in each story, when suddenly the floor of the second story of that front part gave way, sinking down in the shape of a funnel, and carrying the living mass of himanity above down upon the mass below, crowding all together in inextricable confusion, mangle, growning, dying.

The floor was sprorted by an iron pillar in the centre. This resid upon one in the first story, and that upon a bick pillar, sixteen inches square, in ther basement. This brick pillar gave way, crushed into a thusand atoms, all falling down to within two fee of the ground, and then the iron pillars above ell also, and let the floor down The floor of the tird atpry was also crowded, and sunk down some ix inches, but there held, or the destruction of lift and limb would have been still more fearful.

The scene ofhorror, when friends gathered around to rescu the wounded and the dying from their awfulmprisonment, beggars all desoription. Man, had most of their clothes torn from them. Ahusband and wife, who had left four little childrenat home waiting for their return, were claped in each others arms near the bottom of the hear, the sweet life all crushed out of them. Somewere so madgled as to be almost unrecognizable by their friends. Others seemed to have every one in their bodies broken. The groans of the wunded and the dying, the shricks ness a second time.

Singulary, only three days before a portion of the roof dithe Skating Rink in Auburn fell in, killing a outh of sixteen, and wounding quite a number & others, among whom we notice that a little daighter of A. H. Goss, Esq., had an arm broken Surely, too much care can not well be exercised to make all things safe where such number of human beings are crowded together. THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

If has been well observed in this city, the meeting largely at ended, the spirit of prayer dep and earnest. We cannot but hope that some spicial good is in store, close by, for these churches, while we trust their earnest supplications may

all down blessings also on China and India and

CHURCH RELATIONS.

ther lands of darkness and death.

The church of Clarkson was organized in 1816. Soon after the formation of the Presbytery of Rochester, which occurred in 1819, that church connected itself with the Presbytery, and remained in that connection until 1853, when, for some cause, we know not what, it withdrew from Pres bytery, and has remained an independent Congregational church until the 6th instant, when it voted itself a Presbyterian church again, appointed elders, and resolved again to connect itself with the Presbytery of Rochester, so coming back into

its early and proper relations. NORTH CHURCH, BUFFALO.

According to his custom, Rev. Mr. Calkins, the pastor of the North church, Buffalo, preached a sermon last Sunday, reviewing the history of his society for the year. Six members were taken away by death; twenty one dismissed to other churches; thirty eight added on profession, and thirty-four by letter, leaving three hundred

and ninety-six as its present membership. In the last year the society has given to Home Missions \$1,400, to Foreign Missions \$1,300, to other benevolent causes \$3,900, and raised \$25,-000 for its new lecture room and parsonage. It is a strong, vigorous, prosperous church, working well with its able and devoted pastor.

Bishop Coxe's lectures in Buffalo, on the connections of science and revealed religion, are being pretty severely handled by the critics. Some seem to think him better on surplices and vestments than he is on astronomy and geology. He will learn, at least, that he must look well to his statements, as others are more likely to be at the future of this enterprising organization. Elijah the Tishbite will be a lasting menument proportion to their oppressions, as in proportion home in the exact sciences than a busy, itineration to the light which, breaking in, has excited their ing. Bishop.

course, before the Young Men's Christian Association of New York, on Sunday evening, 17th instant. We predict that he will give them a sured of a large success. sermon of decided ability and power; something that will be remembered for some time, even by a New York audience.

Rev. Dr. Sprague has not yet reached Geneseo, although he was expected the first of this month. It was found that his church in Caldwell had something to say in the matter. They protested most stoutly against his leaving them, even though they do live in New Jersey. They thought they needed the Gospel as much as we do in Western New York, and in that we presume they were quite right. So they sent a remonstrance to Presbytery, with five delegates to back to stay where he had labored so long and so sucoessfully, and where his labors were so highly appreciated.

Nevertheless, we understand that the church have had had another meeting, at which the pastor pressed his resignation and his sense of duty to come into this region, whereupon the church consented to make no further opposition, and Dr. Sprague is confidently expected in Geneseo before the end of this month.

We quite forgot to mention last week that Dr. Squier's posthumous volume on "the Being of God," is finely ornamented with an admirable likeness of the author. His benevolent face appears as natural as life upon the title page, and adds much to the value of the volume

Rochester, Jan. 9, 1869.

CORRESPONDENCE IN CHICAGO.

DEAR AMERICAN: A glance at the condition of our city churches and the general aspect of religious matters here may not be unsuitable to the opening year.

The venerable First-if any thing in Chicago is venerable—is renewing its youth under the faithful services of its new and devoted pastor, Rev. A. Mitchell. Its evening meetings this week are largely attended, and solemn in tone. Some few are rejoicing in hopes and experiences newly born, while others are seriously considering their personal relations to the subject of re-

The Second, strong in numbers, wealth and intelligence, and its widely and well-known bishop, Rev. Dr. Patterson, is agitated and somewhat divided on the question of removal to an "uptown," location. The change may be delayed a little longer, but is inevitable. Dr. Patterson is engaged upon a series of Sabbath evening lectures growing out of his recent extended foreign trip, which attract a large hearing. No man is more competent to make such a course instructive and profitable.

During the past year, the Third Church has extinguished the heavy debt which has hitherto burdened it, and is girding itself under its able and universally esteemed pastor, Rev. A. Swazey, for enlarged effort. Few churches enjoy an abler ministry or a more steady and solid growth. Westminster finds itself cramped and confined

within walls, too circumsoribed for its increasing congregation, although but recently enlarged They think themselves too weak to build, [they would do well to adopt the old Roman motto. Possunt quia posse videntur, and are said to be projecting a further enlargement of their buildng. Their pastor, Rev. David Sewing, must be held responsible for this inconvenient crowd. groans of the wunded and the did in death, the ghastly, mangled, ones stiff and old in death, the ghastly, mangled, for the man and his preaching. His people, however, so far from dismissing him on this account, olivet."

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Olivet." ing of the house, a good many people appearing and made him the recipient of tokens of their regard which would be considered a large year's salary of themselves by many a minister of the gospel. And, what is more surprising still, there are other congregations which seem quite disposed to take him off their hands, at the positive risk of incurring like inconveniences. Strange rumors have gone abroad of consolidations and unions on the North Side involving the loss of this church to our body; but if such thoughts have found place anywhere they are now doubtless quieted finally.

The Seventh Church seems to be enjoying a degree of prosperity under the ministry of Mr. McLeish, pastor elect, to which it has been for some time past a stranger. An accession of fourteen members was made to it on Sunday last, of whom twelve united on profession. They are holding well-attended meetings this week, and several persons are enquiring what they shall

The Olivet needs only the watch and care of a competent and faithful under-shepherd to attain to a vigorous growth and a large influence. No church in the city is before it in proportion to its members, in enterprise and liberality. May they soon be blessed with a wise and faithful

Like the Olivet, Calvary church is again va cant. This church occupies a position hardly equalled and not excelled for gathering a large and flourishing congregation. With harmony and concert of action, and a man in the pulpit equal to the position, they ought soon to be among the very largest and strongest of our city churches. I am afraid that, in common with many others, they are more set on finding a man to "milk the goats" than one to "feed the sheep."

The recently received pastor of the Eighth, Rev. L. H. Reid, is gaining for himself an enviable place in the affections of his people and the esteem of his brethren. Already does the church feel the impulse of a renewed vitality. Incumbrances are being removed, and a bright future beckons them onward to new exertions. The dark days of this youthful congregation, we hope

The Ninth in number, an 1 youngest but one of our sisterhood, is enjoying a lusty youth under its genial and deservedly popular minister, Rev. Alfred Eddy. Already has it been obliged to enlarge its house now scarcely ten years old, and with this enlargement it emerges into a condition of self support. There is no doubt about

I have recently chronicled the formation of

Rev. Dr. Fisher of Utica, is to preach in the its founder, Rev. G. W. Mackie. Highly prosperous in its beginnings, and occupying a fine position, it needs only God's blessing to be as-

From this brief survey you will fairly infer an encouraging state of things for our New School Presbyterian Zion in this metropolis of the Interior. And still it is by no means all that it should be. Hitherto there has been far too little of system and concert in promoting the growth of our communion here. I am happy to say that we are attemping to remedy this defect, and to act with more efficiency in the future. I trust that before the close of this year several new organizations in the city or its immediate suburbs will show that we are not unmindful of our opportunities and obligations.

Of the other bodies of Christians here I have not space to speak at large. The churches seem generally outwardly prosperous. A most unhappy controversy, connected with the affairs of the North-western (O. S.) Seminary, is exciting much attention, and arousing much embittered feeling. Just now I am very glad we are two

The Plymouth (Congregational) church seems to be realizing its expectations in calling Rev. Mr. Bartlett to its pulpit. He "draws." New England Church since the withdrawal of Doct. Gulliver, is vacant.

The Prayer-meeting room in the new edifice of the Young Men's Christian Association was yesterday thrown open for the first time for the noon day meeting. The fine room, capable of seating 450 persons, was filled. In opening the meeting Mr. Moody remarked that one year ago at that hour their former house was in flames. While the firemen were contending with the devouring element, Christians gathered in a neighboring place and prayed that a better edifice might speedily succeed to the place of that then being consumed. They met to day to thank God for the answer to those prayers. The present room was larger and more commodious then the old, and the "Farwell Hall" above, to be dedicated on the 19th inst, was a far finer hall than its predecessor. Fervent prayers were offered that this place of holy convocation might long stand a center of union, and citadel of spiritual power in this city.

As a supplement to the Week of Prayer, and in order "to secure a general awakening of religious interest among the churches of the city,' a Christian, Convention will be held in this city next week. The meetings which will continue from Monday until Wednesday evenings, will be held in the Second Presbyterian church.

Chicago, Jan. 8, 1868. NORTH-WEST.

Aews of Aur Churches.

CITY CHURCHES.

The First church took their annual collection for Home Missions last Sabbath; it amounted to \$1,800. Last year it was \$713. Meetings are being held every evening this week. North Broad St. has been holding meetings

every evening, with two preaching services, which have been encouraging, both in attendance and interest manifested.

Manayunk. - At the communion, Sabbath, Jan 3d, eight adult persons were received by profession, and others are expected to unite soon.

The pastor of the Olivet Presbyterian church of this city, Rev. W. W. Taylor, was agreeably surprised on New Year's day by the visit of a

Rev. B. B. Parsons, D. D.—At a late meeting of the congregation of the Cedar street church, held on Dec. 22d, 1868, the Rev. Dr. Parsons was unanimously elected pastor of this church. The Doctor has been preaching there for several weeks, and at the communion last Sabbath seventeen persons were added to the membership. The Congregation has considerably increased since he came among them. We hope that he may see his way clear to accept this call, as it is in a location where a great work may be done for the cause of the Master. The Doctor comes highly recommended from the people of his last charge, the Westminister church, in St. Joseph, Mo. The Presbytery of Lexington, held in St. Joseph, for the purpose of considering the resignation of Dr. Parsons, expressed their high satisfaction, "that our esteemed brother has so fully and completely accomplished the work for which he was especially called to the city of St. Joseph, viz: the establishment of a church upon a permanent basis, and the completion of a neat and, in every respect, pleasant chapel at a cost of about \$17,000." They also Resolved, That the Presbytery hereby express their fullest confidence in Bro. Parsons, and their esteem for him for his work's sake; and that we commend him as a very able preacher, and an efficient and successful minister of the Word to those churches of our denomination who may be seeking a pastor.

Rev. Lafayette Marks, pastor elect of the North Broad St. U. P. mission church, has accepted a call to the Hanover St. church of Wilmington, Del. He will enter on his duties next Sabbath. Salary \$2,500.

Rev. W. C. Dickinson received from his friends in Calvary church, Chicago, on retiring from its pastorate, a prese t of \$1,000. Rev. Dr. Gulliver, of Knox College, will supply the pulpit for six months.

Rev. D. J. Beale, pastor elect of the church in St. George's, Del., preached his first sermon as settled pastor there Jan. 3. Salary \$1,500 and

a parsonage.

Rev. G. W. Winnes has been laboring since 1854 among the Germans in Cincinnatti, (who constitute a third, part of the population of the city,) under the care of the Young Men's Missionary Society. He has received to the church during the Thirty-first street Church, under charge of the year thirty-two on profession, and two by let-